

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY TOKYO

INFO AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 134894

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EFIS, XP, JA

SUBJECT: JAPANESE VIOLATION NORTH PACIFIC FISHERIES
TREATY AND BRISTOL BAY UNDERSTANDING

REF: TOKYO 8142

LONDON FOR WHALING DEL

1. JAPANESE EMBOFF CALLED AT DEPARTMENT JUNE 21 TO
PRESENT PAPERS RE STATUS VIOLATION OF ABSTENTION LINE
AND OF SELF-RESTRAINT MEASURES RE BRISTOL BAY SALMON.
DISCUSSION WAS GENERALLY ALONG LINES OF TOKYO DIS-
CUSSIONS REPORTED REFTEL.

2. ON VIOLATION ABSTENTION LINE JAPANESE PAPER STATED
THAT TOKO MARU HAD ORDERED MYOJIN MARU NO. 1 ON JUNE 17
TO RETURN TO KUSHIRO. PROMISED THAT FULL-SCALE
INVESTIGATION WILL BE CONDUCTED BY MARITIME SAFETY
AGENCY AND STRICT MEASURES WILL BE TAKEN AGAINST VESSEL
IF INVESTIGATION ESTABLISHES FACT OF VIOLATION. ALSO
STATED THAT FOR 1974 GOJ HAD ESPECIALLY STRENGTHENED
ENFORCEMENT MEASURES CONCERNING OBSERVANCE OF TREATY
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PROVISIONS. GOJ REGRETS THAT DESPITE THIS ACTION

INCIDENT HAD OCCURRED AND JFA HAS ISSUED STRONG WARNINGS TO INDUSTRY AND RENEWED GUIDANCE TO VESSELS AT SEA.

3. STATEMENT ON BRISTOL BAY UNDERSTANDING WAS MUCH ALONG LINES REPORTED REFTEL, I.E. ANY VIOLATION WAS

PROBABLY DUE TO EFFECT OF CURRENTS. JFA HAS ISSUED WARNING TO INDUSTRY AND STRONG INSTRUCTIONS TO STRICTLY OBSERVE FISHERY REGULATORY MEASURES WHETHER SELF-RESTRAINT OR BILATERALLY OR MULTILATERALLY AGREED.

4. DEPARTMENT OFFICER MADE POINTS SIMILAR TO THOSE REPORTED REFTEL. NOTED THAT JAPANESE SALMON FISHERMEN KNOW CURRENTS IN AREA BETTER THAN ANYONE ELSE. EXPRESSED SURPRISE THAT IN VIEW FIRM COMMITMENT BY JAPANESE INDUSTRY THERE APPEARED TO BE NO WAY OF DISCIPLINING VIOLATORS OF UNDERSTANDING. RE-EMPHASIZED CONCERN OVER REPETITION IN 1974 OF VIOLATIONS OF ABSTENTION LINE WHICH COULD ONLY EXACERBATE SITUATION IN ESPECIALLY SENSITIVE CIRCUMSTANCES THIS YEAR. KISSINGER

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